



The MOUNTAIN EAGLE

IT SCREAMS! Whitesburg, Letcher County, Kentucky, Thursday, March 2, 1967 Vol. 59, No. 42

Severe cutbacks predicted in Letcher WE&T program

At least half of the men now enrolled in the Work Experience and Training Program in Letcher County -- and possibly as many as three-fourths -- will lose their jobs during the next few weeks.

Almost all of the men over 45 will be fired, regardless of their welfare needs.

Despite official assurances from the Department of Economic Security that program cutbacks would affect less than a fourth of the men involved, the MOUNTAIN EAGLE learned this week that the cutback will be far more drastic.

Furthermore, it appears that the nine counties originally included in the WET program when it was launched three years ago will be by far the hardest hit.

If state welfare officials carry out current plans, between 125 and 150 men working on the WET program in Letcher County will be dropped between now and the end of this month. WET workers in Perry, Harlan, Pike, Knott, Breathitt and Leslie counties will be even harder hit.

Men fired from the program will technically have the right to a hearing -- but few if any will be reinstated regardless of merit.

The MOUNTAIN EAGLE learned these and other unpublished details of WET developments from Ben Adams, supervisor of Economic Security for Knott and Letcher Counties, in an interview this



BEN ADAMS

week.

Work Experience and Training Program is no longer a welfare program," Adams said. "From now on it will be a training program designed only for those people who can accept private employment in the near future."

"Those who can't," he said, "won't be eligible for the program. That's a big bunch of men."

To qualify for vocational training under the program, men must have reached the equivalent of an 8th grade education. Adams said that at least 50% of the WET

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Meeting Saturday

Letcher County jobless fathers will meet Saturday at the county courthouse to draft plans for further action in their campaign to maintain the Work Experience and Training Program at current strength.

Clisten Johnson, chairman of the Committee to Save the WE&T Program, said that members of the committee could furnish details of the meeting.

Collins files

Ray Collins of Whitesburg has filed formal papers with the Secretary of State at Frankfort declaring his candidacy for the office of state senator from Letcher and Perry Counties.

Collins is seeking the Republican nomination for the office. He is a soft-drink bottler and Regular Baptist minister and has been active in many civic projects.



JOBLESS FATHERS were at work this week near P. mium, repairing foot bridges damaged during recent windstorms. A shortage of program funds may bring this kind of work to a stop in many parts of the county. (Eagle photo)

Program extended

The Office of Economic Opportunity has approved a \$37,000 grant to extend the anti-poverty community action program in Letcher County until July 1.

The formal approval has not been received here, but Washington OEO officials and the office of Congressman Carl D. Perkins have told local residents that the grant has been okayed and papers have been mailed.

The grant will permit continuation of a program of outreach and social services which began in Letcher County last April.

Announcement of the grant was made last Thursday night at the February meeting of the Leslie, Knott, Letcher, Perry Community Action Council in Hazard.

The council re-elected Judge George Wooten of Leslie County as its chairman. It named Ferdinand Moore of Whitesburg as secretary, the Rev. David Conley of Hazard as vice chairman and re-elected Atty. Robert Morgan, Knott County, as treasurer.

Jenkins wins first round of tournament

The Jenkins High School Cavaliers defeated the Letcher High School Eagles 61-48 in the opening game of the district basketball tournament here Wednesday night.

In tonight's play, Whitesburg's Yellowjackets will meet Kingdom Come, Fleming-Neon, which drew a first-round bye, will play Jenkins Friday night, and the tournament finals are set for Saturday night.

All sessions are being held in the Whitesburg High School gymnasium.

Special classes start

Twenty-one volunteer teachers have begun general education classes for out-of-school Neighborhood Youth Corps enrollees in Leslie, Knott, Letcher, and Perry counties. They are working under the auspices of the Hindman Settlement School, which is under contract to the LKLP Community Action Council.

The program, which received official authorization from the Office of Economic Opportunity last week, is under the direction of Raymond McLaine of the Hindman Settlement School.

Named to the council's executive committee were Bill Craft of Letcher County, George Archer of Perry County, John R. Hoskins of Leslie County and Larkin Short of Knott County.

The council approved submission of a request to Washington to permit use of surplus funds in the council's out-of-school Neighborhood Youth Corps project to employ more staff for the project.

E. J. Safford, area director of the LKLP council, said several field supervisors and a second guidance counselor are needed. Money for the salaries would come from surpluses built up this winter because of snow and bad weather which prevented NYC enrollees from working.

OJT grant okayed for 4-county area

The Leslie-Knott-Letcher Perry Community Action Council has received \$50,000 from the Department of Labor, as part of the On-the-Job Training Program, to develop 100 job placements in the four-county area.

Area director E. J. Safford announced the grant this week. He said that the LKLP Council is now seeking a director for the program.

In its last meeting, Safford said, the Council voted to put the OJT office in Hazard. This was partly to facilitate working with the Neighborhood Youth Corps office there, and partly because the bulk of the enrollees are expected to come from Perry County, Safford said.

Safford reported that he hopes to have a functioning OJT staff by March 6.

Perkins blames state for loss

Congressman Carl D. Perkins today placed much of the blame for the cutback in the Work Experience and Training Program at Frankfort's door.

"I am deeply disappointed in the state's failure to come up with the necessary funds" to keep the program going at present levels, Perkins said.

Perkins recalled that Kentucky state government officials made a formal promise to Congress and the federal Health, Education and Welfare Department two years ago to put some state matching funds into the WET program, but had failed to keep the promise. In the absence of Frankfort participation in the program's financing, the federal government had little choice but to cut back on the amount of funds coming into the state, Perkins said.

Perkins also expressed "deep concern" that elderly unemployed fathers and the hard-core unemployed would suffer under the cutback guidelines adopted by the state.

The Congressman said he had great personal interest in the program and its fate.

"I have been particularly concerned that our older people and the ones who just can't find any other source of employment not be made to suffer," Perkins said. He said he had fought during numerous formal and informal conferences with program officials against any cutoff guidelines that would involve any arbitrary actions based on either the age of the father or the length of time he has spent on the program.

Perkins said he has been meeting regularly with officials of the Economic Opportunity program, the Department of Labor and the Department of Health, Education and Welfare first in efforts to a-

void cuts, then in efforts to minimize the effects of any cuts on the hard-core unemployed.

These meetings are continuing, he said, adding that he is hopeful that some new programs might be worked out to provide new jobs for the men who are being laid off the WE&T program.

Perkins stressed, however, that nothing has been worked out yet and said that he does not want to hold out any false promises to the people of Eastern Kentucky.

He said, however, that he is making a maximum effort to see that Labor, HEW and OEO review their programs and available funds to look for ways to provide increased assistance to the Eastern Kentuckians area.

The Labor Department, Perkins added, already has agreed to give immediate consideration and insofar as possible prompt approval to projects submitted under the so-called Nelson-Scheuer provision of the anti-poverty program. This section of the Economic Opportunity Act allocates funds for beautification and public improvement projects to employ disadvantaged persons. It is somewhat similar to the WE&T program.

Meanwhile, Mrs. Barbara Coughlan, assistant to the Federal Welfare Commissioner, Mrs. Ellen Winston, said that HEW shares Congressman Perkins' concern that the elderly and hard-core unemployed not be made to suffer.

She added that top-level officials of HEW and other agencies have been meeting regularly with Perkins to try to find other solutions for Eastern Kentucky and that she is hopeful something will be worked out.

Another top-level Washington spokesman told The Mountain Eagle that Perkins' "bargaining position" has been seriously dam-

aged both with Congress and with federal administrative agencies by Frankfort's actions.

"The fact that Kentucky officials have not kept promises made to federal officials makes it hard for Perkins when he tries to convince people here that Kentucky should be given special consideration," the source said.

"And let's face it. Kentucky has done a very poor job of administering the WE&T program. This makes it very hard to justify putting anything more down there."

In Frankfort, Leonard Kelsey, a spokesman for the Department of Economic Security, said the department there does not believe the cutbacks will be as serious as Eastern Kentuckians fear.

Kelsey, speaking for Economic Security Commissioner Leslie Dawson, said "a great many" of the men cut off the WE&T program would be routinely transferred to other state welfare programs, particularly the assistance program for the permanently and totally disabled.

Kelsey said the eligibility rules for disability benefits have been relaxed.

Public assistance caseworkers will be able to certify disability and have many of the men transferred automatically without the need for medical examinations, Kelsey said.

Kelsey also denied that there will be any discrimination against any of the jobless fathers because of age or length of enrollment in the program.

The MOUNTAIN EAGLE will carry further reports next week on developments in the WET Program crisis, including a survey of efforts to salvage the program and an interview with one of the men likely to be dropped from it.

AN APPALACHIAN TRAGEDY

By TOM BETHELL

The Appalachian tragedy that began this week in Letcher County will have grim implications for the entire war on poverty.

In this county, the mass layoffs from the Work Experience and Training Program will mean immediate economic deprivation for more than a hundred families.

In the nineteen Eastern Kentucky counties now participating in the program, it will mean similar hardship for thousands of families.

Beyond that, it will mean hard times for everyone in the area -- because it will deny to the area millions of dollars in income that has benefited businessmen, school teachers, county officials, and all kinds of working people.

And in an area already deprived of many of its brightest and most capable people, it will mean even more of them leaving to look for greener pastures elsewhere.

Ultimately, it may mean yet another generation of under-educated, ill-fed, poorly-housed people living out desperate lives as permanent welfare cases.

At first glance, the picture presented by the WET cutback is much less gloomy. Many Kentuckians -- and many more Appalachians -- will look at the official statistics and conclude that things couldn't possibly be that bad. After all, the cutback is only supposed to affect about 1,400 men. If you divide that by the 19 counties in which the cuts are to take place, you wind up with just 74 men per county.

But unfortunately the official statistics are misleading.

The state Department of Economic Security, which administers the WET program, has set up an elaborate set of criteria for cutting men. Whether deliberately or accidentally, the criteria are unmistakably geared to cutting more men from the first ten counties that joined the program, and fewer men from nine counties that were added later. The reason is simple. The criteria are designed to weed out of the program those men who have been enrolled for a relatively long time and who have not, in the eyes of the state, made satisfactory progress. Obviously the counties that have participated for the longest period of time will have the greatest number of men who are long-time enrollees. They are the ones who will be the immediate victims of the cutback.

The criteria were listed in detail in a circular distributed on February 21 from Frankfort to county WET administrators. The circular was not distributed to the public, the press, or the WET workers -- despite its considerable importance. It lists ten reasons for cutting men from the program, any one of which is enough to disqualify a man. Under the state's rules, men who can expect to get the axe are those who:

1. have completed an MDTA training sequence or vocational education sequence;
2. have completed a private employer contract and received the training specified in the contract;
3. have successfully completed high school equivalency classes and have a marketable skill;
4. have successfully completed their employability plan;
5. have failed at least twice to complete the first level of basic education;
6. have failed at least twice to complete the basic education level to which initially assigned or failed at least twice high school equivalency classes;
7. did not require assignment to basic education, but have been unsuccessful during a reasonable period of time in progressing beyond basic work project assignments because of a lack of general abilities;
8. have been on for the duration of the project but have been unable to progress beyond the basic education level and/or to show the ability to acquire work skills above the minimum level;

9. have refused to accept a bona fide job offer;

10. show an unwillingness to participate in assignments as evidenced by progress well below potential, an excess of unexcused absences and/or conduct which has been detrimental to the morale of other participants such as drunkenness on the job, fighting, etc.

The language of the criteria (quoted directly from the state's circular) is pure bureaucratese; it raises more questions than it answers. For example:

--What is a "marketable skill" (#3)? If a man knows how to operate a jackhammer, but there are no jobs available for jackhammer operators, will he be dropped from the program?

--For those who have failed at least twice to complete the first level of basic education (#5) who will be able to say that they were being competently taught by teachers adequately trained in adult remedial education?

--Does the "lack of general abilities" referred to in #7 mean anything? Have the men been supervised by experts capable of professionally evaluating a man's "general abilities"?

--What constitutes a bona fide job offer (#9)? The state has a handbook defining the term, but the problem of definition persists. For example, a Letcher Countian recently went to Florida on the advice of his WET supervisors to take a job selling hand cleaners; his old car broke down en route, and when he got there the job was gone. The county welfare people refused to put him back on the WET program when he came home.

--Who is qualified to interpret a totally ambiguous phrase like "progress well below potential" (#10)? Can men without degrees in sociology and psychology determine the potential of other men who have long been the victims of poor education and poverty?

This is only one of many difficult questions raised by the cool, colorless language of the circular. But it gets pretty close to the heart of the problem. The state is characteristically concerned with dollars and statistics, but the WET program was designed to benefit human beings.

Close analysis of the circular takes a little time, but it results in an unavoidable conclusion: if you want to cut a man from the program, one or more of the ten criteria will give you the power to do it. Or, to put it another way: nobody on the program is safe.

The only way to make an educated guess about who will stay on the program is to accept the accuracy of Ben Adams' analysis (see page 1). As supervisor of Economic Security for Knott and Letcher counties, Adams is in a position to know what is going on in Frankfort. He is also in the difficult position of trying to provide economic security -- as his title implies -- without being given adequate funds to do it. Talking with him for a few minutes leaves the clear impression that he is a very troubled man -- and that may be why he has been more candid about the WET program's future than his superiors in the capitol.

It was Adams, not his superiors, who told this paper that the program will no longer be a welfare program -- that it will exist only to provide vocational training for younger men likely to find jobs in the near future.

It was Adams who pointed out that the wording of the criteria effectively eliminates from the program men over 45 without job prospects. Criteria #6, 7, 8, 9, and 10 bear him out.

It was Adams who pointed out that criterion #8 will penalize the ten counties that first joined the WET program.

Since caseworkers were reviewing enrollee records when Adams was interviewed, it was reasonable that he would not make a specific estimate of the number of men who will be cut off the program in Letcher County. But he did say that more than half of the

Letcher Countians enrolled in the program would fail their basic education requirements. There are between 250 and 275 men now on the program in the county. Keeping the arithmetic conservative, that means that a minimum of 125 men will be laid off because of educational failure. This is almost twice as many as the Department of Economic Security statistics seem to indicate.

It is difficult, if not impossible, to state flatly how many of those 125 men will be able to find jobs. Some of the younger, abler men may be willing to work in dog-hole mines at whatever pay scales the owners feel like paying. Others may take that kind of work out of sheer desperation. But even in these mines there are not large numbers of jobs going begging, and in other areas of the area's economy there are very few jobs available and almost none that pay well. Those that do are for skilled men; and a WET man by definition is not skilled.

Assuming that 5% of the men can qualify for another form of public assistance -- and the per cent is Adams' assumption rather than this paper's -- that leaves at least 120 men without any apparent income at all.

State statisticians do not accurately report the average family size of the WET enrollees; based on random interviews with more than 30 "Happy Pappies" this week, it seems fair to guess that the typical program enrollee is in his late forties, is married and has six children still living at home and depending on him for support. Five of those children are school-age. His wife is fully occupied with running their home, and earns no money. He has an old car badly in need of maintenance work; he owes money on at least one major appliance, on several pieces of furniture, and on groceries. He is in debt to at least one bank. He has no "marketable skills," hardly any formal education, and his potential, to use the state's term, is largely unrealized -- probably, for that matter, impossible to determine.

Adams has admitted that the cut-offs in Letcher County may run much higher than 50%, but keeping the arithmetic conservative, it can be assumed that between 100 and 125 of these men will be on the streets, jobless, within ten days -- certainly no later than April 1, which is the date set by the state for completion of cut-offs. What effect will they have on the county, and what can they expect in terms of a way out?

The second question can be answered more briefly than the first, but the answer is brutal. The WET castoffs can expect nothing at all in terms of a way out. They may be able to fend off actual starvation by getting relatives or friends to give them the money necessary to buy food stamps, and Adams says that most of them will be eligible for medical care. But there will be no income for anything else. The Letcher-Knott-Letcher-Perry Community Action Council has plans to apply for a grant from the Department of Labor to create make-work county-beautification jobs for some of the "Happy Pappies" but there is no assurance that the grant will come through. The Salvation Army is already assisting destitute families here, but it lacks the resources to handle a sudden sharp increase. Other charities may be able to absorb some of the strain, and a few private individuals will do what they can to help. Community organizations may be able to do some pooling of community resources, but they are already unable to meet the needs of pre-cutback poverty.

In other words, alternatives to the WET program are still speculative. But the destitution faced by the men cut off from the program is already a reality.

To assess the effect that the program cutback will have on the economy of Letcher County,

In which poor families of Eastern Kentucky again face the spectres of hunger and cold

the first fact to be remembered is that the economy is already unsteady and has been for years. The current unemployment rate is 13.5%; translated into human terms, that means that almost 4,000 Letcher Countians are out of work already, and constituting a drag on the economy in a variety of ways. They are

--unable to contribute to the costs of maintaining the roads they drive on, the schools their children use, and other county services;

--unable to pay for their health needs, and their health needs are notably greater than those of people who can afford to pay;

--unable to guarantee regular payments for major purchases, and incapable of paying cash.

The WET men have been technically classified among the unemployed, but their income, at \$1.25 an hour, has played an important part in supporting the county for the past three years. When they stop earning money, they and their large families will considerably swell the ranks of the actually unemployed, and it is -- again -- conservative to argue that something like half the population of the county will be supported by the other half. No reputable economist has ever argued that this is a good or even feasible way to keep a county functioning.

The county is, in fact, kept going through the generosity of the federal government -- and the war in Vietnam has reduced the government's supply of generosity. Whitesburg businessmen, especially those dealing in cars, major appliances, furniture, and other installment-plan items, will feel the impact of the WET cutback hardest -- and immediately. They will be kept busy going out into the hollows and repossessing their merchandise; once they have it back in the store they will be faced with the problem of

unloading used goods in a tight market. It is not a rosy picture.

But in the long run the Letcher Countians who will suffer most will be the children of the poor. Superintendent of Schools Kendall Boggs points out, with concern, that poverty-stricken parents can neither afford to buy their children's clothes nor to pay for their lunches; his guess is that the increased burden on the free lunch program may be unmanageable even though attendance will drop off sharply. These are immediate problems for which Boggs has to find solutions; but out in the hollows a long-range problem will mushroom as the next generation of under-educated, under-skilled people sits and waits for... what?

There is bitter irony in the fact that the WET program is being converted to a vocational training project for relatively able men, because it was designed as just the opposite. Call it what you will -- when it came into being during the winter of 1963 it was set up as an emergency relief program for the people at the very bottom of the economic barrel: those who had no other way out and up. Now it is these same people who are being cut out of the program and exiled to their never-never land of 1963. The program came into being because President Kennedy was concerned about the plight of thousands of Appalachian families who might not have survived another winter without federal help. Now, four winters later, the same families are, in effect, being told by a self-styled champion of the poor that they are less important than a highly controversial war some several thousand miles away.

The WET program has been highly imperfect, but criticisms of its administration are almost irrelevant this week. It was indisputably better than nothing; and nothing is on hand to replace it.

FIVE UNHAPPY PAPPIES WITH NO FUTURE:



TWICE A WEEK these "Happy Pappies" study basic arithmetic and other subjects at the Eolia School. Their teacher, Mrs. Lillian Mae Jones, believes most of them have made "good progress."

The five men pictured on the opposite page are typical of the nearly 300 men now participating in the Work Experience and Training Program. They all live in or near Eolia and have worked at a variety of jobs under the program -- mostly on the order of building foot-bridges, grading rural roads, clearing rubbish from roadsides, and cleaning up underbrush in and around creeks. They have not been given any vocational training, despite the name of the program, but at least they have been able to get up in the morning without having to face the prospect of going through another day of sitting on a porch wondering how to feed a family or find a job. For many of them, their WET experience has represented the first time in their lives that they had anything approaching a sense of security.

And for some of them, the program has had at least one major bonus. Required to attend school, they have found

that the learning process could be valuable -- and even pleasant at times. The men in Eolia have benefited from the encouragement and guidance of Mrs. Lillian Mae Jones, who has been teaching children at the Eolia School for thirteen years and is now the school librarian.

Mrs. Jones has a practical attitude toward her adult pupils. "You take a man in his late forties or fifties who has never had any formal schooling," she says, "and you have a long way to go. Many of the men I'm working with -- there are ten in the class -- couldn't read or write when they started. But most of them have worked hard, tried hard, and made progress."

Mrs. Jones teaches the men a wide range of elementary-level subjects, but concentrates on arithmetic, because "they like it best, and they can use it." She was shocked by the news that many men would be dropped from the program "when they're beginning to get somewhere."

WE&T CUTBACKS "GOING TO BE A TERRIBLE THING FOR THIS COUNTY" . . . (From Page 1)



JUDGE JAMES M. CAUDILL

men in Letcher County cannot meet this requirement. He said that he believed the figure might be much higher than 50%, but that he could "just guess at it" until Economic Security teams complete case reviews for each WET enrollee.

Adams said that for men over 45, there would be no real chance of remaining on the program.

"If you're over 45, nobody is going to hire you unless you have a special skill. These men are not skilled," Adams said. "And there's not a thing we can do for them."

Adams admitted that current plans for the WET program directly contradict its original purpose, which was to help provide basic needs of the most destitute families in Eastern Kentucky. He said the decision to drop older men was made in Washington by the Department of Health, Education and Welfare, which provides funds for the program under Title V of the Economic Opportunity Act.

"It hurts me to see this happen here," Adams said. "The children of these men will suffer the most. It's true that the program has been criticized, it's true that there have been things wrong with



KENDALL BOGGS

it, but the people who are cutting it aren't thinking of the children who will be badly fed, badly clothed, and badly educated as a result."

As for the men dropped from the program, Adams predicted that they will be "worse off than they were in 1963 before the program started. Their standard of living has improved enough for them to buy a great many items on the installment plan. The merchants are going to have to repossess these things."

Adams said that a very small percentage of the men -- perhaps 5% -- will qualify for other forms of public assistance. But the rest, he said, will not be eligible for any form of welfare help at all -- with the exception of medical care. Food stamps will be available only to those who can pay for them. Adams said he didn't know what would happen to men without any cash at all for food stamps.

"I guess some of them will get help from relatives," he said. "Some have grown children who can support them. Private organizations can do part of the job." But Adams did not deny that some of the WET men will be face to face with starvation.



E. J. SAFFORD

Adams said that any man who gets dropped will have the right to a hearing, refereed by Economic Security officials from Frankfort. "But we just don't have the money," he said, "and they'll have to go, one way or another."

Case reviews will be completed in four or five days, according to Adams, and cutoffs will begin immediately after that. The program curtailment has to be completed by April 1, he said.

Approximately 260 men are now enrolled in the program in Letcher County. At least 130 of them will be left jobless by the cutbacks, according to the information supplied by Adams. If 5% qualify for other kinds of assistance, 124 would still be without any income. Most of those will be older men supporting large families. Presumably they will be unable to send all of their children to school; they will be unable to meet payments owed to local merchants; they will suffer from loss of pride as well as loss of income; they will be less able to care for their health and the health of their children; and they will place an incalculable burden on the limited resources of the county.

"It's going to be a terrible thing for this county," Judge James M. Caudill said when he was informed of the scope of the WET cutback.

"This has been a good program, Judge Caudill said. "It has had its abuses, but there are abuses in any program. It has brought money into the county, it has helped the schools, it has helped us pay our teachers better salaries, it has made it possible to grade rural roads and extend school bus service to areas where we couldn't get buses in before."

"To me, it's unthinkable that the program could be cut back this way," Judge Caudill said. "If there had to be a reduction, the better way would have been to leave it as is until the younger men could find jobs, and keep the others on the program. This way, it will hurt everyone in the county."

Delmer Kincaid, owner of Transit Coach Lines, which operates bus service between Hazard and Whitesburg, said that the loss of income could be disastrous for many businessmen in the area. "A good many of us are operating on a shoestring anyway, and this is the kind of thing that can snap the string," he said.

Clifton Johnson, chairman of the Committee to Save the Work Experience and Training Program, predicted that "there will be dozens of men begging in the streets of Whitesburg" if the WET program is cut.

He said that the Committee plans to deliver a petition to Gov. Edward T. Breathitt in Frankfort "as soon as we get the signature of every right-thinking voter in this county." The program could be maintained at something approximating full strength only if Kentucky contributes a percentage of the funds, which now come entirely from the federal government. Since the state legislature is not scheduled to meet until January, 1968, there will be no state action unless Gov. Breathitt calls a special session of the legislature or appropriates money from his emergency fund.

Most sources do not believe that the emergency fund alone could solve the problem. When the WET program was developed three years ago it was with the assumption that the state would contribute between 20% and 30% of the necessary funds. Since then, however, the state has left the matter entirely to Washington. The cutbacks this month reflect across-the-board reductions in federal anti-poverty efforts.

Edwin Safford, area director of the Leslie-Knott-Letcher-Perry Community Action Council, said that "the state of Kentucky has really double-crossed these counties, by failing to contribute the necessary funds to keep the program at full strength and by setting up methods of cutting men so that more than half of the cuts will take place in less than half of the counties."

"They may make all kinds of excuses in Frankfort," Safford said, "but the fact is that they're really penalizing the counties that got started earliest on the WET program. Many of the most able people in the county have left, and many of those who remain have been on this program because there was nothing else they could do."

Safford said that local OEO staff members would find their work "extremely frustrating -- because the demands are getting greater and the resources are getting fewer."

Whitesburg attorney Harry M. Caudill said that he was "practically speechless" when he heard the news of the WET program cutback.

"I'm convinced that this is a major step in the wrong direction," Caudill said. "These men, some of whom are sick, crippled, illiterate or too old to find jobs, and their families are being sacrificed to finance the war in Vietnam. The President has said that we can afford both guns and butter, but we're depriving the most needy people we have of the butter in order to pay for the guns. This is a tragedy almost too great to believe."

"I JUST DON'T KNOW WHAT I'LL DO" . . . "I GUESS I'M NO GOOD TO ANYBODY ANY MORE"



LONIS STURGILL

Lonis Sturgill, 59, worked as a rural mail carrier for the U.S. Post Office for 32 years; last fall he was suddenly laid off after his route was combined with another carrier's. In three more years he would have been eligible for Social Security retirement benefits; he requested that he be kept on the payroll, and his request was denied. In November he was accepted in the WET program. He knows how to drive a truck -- he used to drive one 35 years ago -- but he has no other job skills.

He has never lived very high off the hog -- when he started as a mail carrier he made 99¢ a day, and when he was laid off he was making \$195 per month -- but he has kept his self-respect intact until now. But with a wife and two school-age children at home, he is worried about his future; he is almost certain to be dropped from the WET program.

"We'll just have to hunt ground hogs and get the grease," he says with something like a defiant grin. "I guess I'll talk to a few of these politicians a little."



OKLA SARGENT

Okla Sargent, 40, has been on the WET program for six months. He mined coal before that, but he has severe arthritis in both legs. Under the law that doesn't disable him, but his doctor ordered him out of the mines. After 15 years of mining, he doesn't know much about doing anything else. He had little schooling as a boy; he has worked his way up to 8th grade level in the WET education program and would like to keep going.

He and his wife have seven children, five of whom are in school. Like the other men, he has no way to keep them there if he is laid off -- about every two weeks he has to buy one or another of them a new pair of shoes, and his expenses hardly end there. He owes money to a Virginia bank, to the Whitesburg Hospital, and to an assortment of grocery stores; he has no car.

"Don't know what I'll do, and I'm not thinking about it until the time comes. The only thing would be the mines, but most of them are death traps -- no regulations, no insurance. Looks bad,"



HENRY BAKER

Henry Baker, 50, has a wife and seven children to support, and no way to support them if he is cut from the WET program, which he joined in April, 1964. Before that he had worked at a variety of jobs, including mining, but he had not found steady work since 1959.

He has five grown step-children, but none of them can be counted on for financial help: "They've got problems enough of their own." His wife receives \$47 per month from Social Security, and he receives \$17 per month on an old army disability pension. "That makes me better off than most of these men that don't get anything anywhere."

As a Happy Pappy he has done a variety of jobs, mostly on road work, but in almost three years he has received no vocational training. He has a heart condition, stomach ulcers, and silicosis of both lungs.

Looks to me like I'm a lost duck, buddy," he says. "Don't have a thing in sight. I'll do just about anything to make the dollar -- moonshine, maybe."

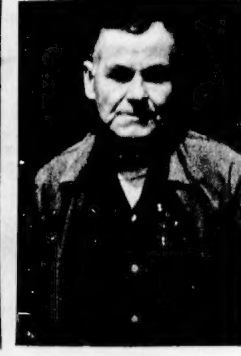


LLOYD HUFF

Lloyd Huff, 41, is just young enough to have a chance of staying on the program. Like the other men, he is unprepared to do anything else. He used to work in a Virginia furniture store, but he was laid off years ago when the store closed; he came back to his Kentucky home and went to work on the WET program in December, 1965. He and his wife have 10 children to feed and clothe and a stack of bills to be paid.

He has no relatives who can assist him; even if he did, "it sure hurts a man to ask for that kind of charity." He has had no formal schooling and no job skills; he thinks his health is pretty good, but for some time he has had "a hurting in my breast" and has hesitated about seeing a doctor for fear of a long hospitalization, after which he might not have his WET job any more.

"I don't know what I would have done without this program, and I don't know what I'd do if I got out," he says. "I don't think there are any jobs for me, but I'd sure look hard for one."



BILL OSBORNE

Bill Osborne, 59, has four children in school, another at home, and a seriously ill wife whose medical expenses are a constant problem. Bill does all the housework in his home in addition to working full-time on the WET program. Although he had no regular schooling as a boy, he has been doing well in the required remedial education program that all Happy Pappies attend. He is highly intelligent but has not yet received any vocational training and is almost certain to be dropped from the program this month.

"That will leave him with no income at all. He is able-bodied but technically unskilled, and his employment prospects are nonexistent. He has no relatives who can help out."

"I'm too old to be any good to anyone, I guess. I just haven't got it figured," he says. "There isn't much to look forward to. At times I want to take my family and go as far as I can. But I can't afford to go anywhere. And even if I could, my truck's broke and I can't afford to fix it. You could say I'm confused; yes sir."

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|---|--|--|
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| Pronto Soap 10¢ Off Reg. Size 3/35¢ | Sunshine 10-Oz. Off 71¢ | OXYDOL King Size 1.19 |
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FOODTOWN

107 SOUTH WEBB AVENUE • WHITESBURG

BLACKKEY: AUNT HET CAUDILL IS ILL IN HOSPITAL

By CHARLES ANNE MULLIS

Mrs. Curt Caudill had a "baby shower" for her daughter, Mrs. Sandra Smith of Hazard, Friday, February 17. Although the weather was bad, everyone had a lot of fun.

Aunt Het Caudill is ill and in the hospital in Hazard.

Mrs. Betty Smith has been ill and in the hospital, but is home now. Her mother has come to visit her from Cincinnati.

Mrs. Liza Wilson has had her daughter, Della, and family home to visit from Dayton, Ohio. Mrs. Wilson recently went to Lexington to visit another daughter, Betty, whose husband is ill.

Please call your news items to 7660.

First of all, about that basketball game; the Blackey Improvement Committee planned a "Red Heads" girl basketball game to raise money to help pay for the building that houses the center. The Committee asked for and received permission to use the gym at Calvary College. The game was widely publicized, and a lot of tickets were sold. Then, just ten days before the game was to be played, Calvary College called to say that the gym could not be used because, according to the College, the

girls who were playing were indecently dressed and looked like burlesque girls.

The Mountain Eagle

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Wade Whitehead elected representative of Blackey on Citizen's Committee

A standing-room-only crowd of Blackey residents met Monday and elected Wade Whitehead to represent them on the Citizens Advisory Committee. He will also be a member of the boards of the Letcher County Economic Opportunity Committee and the Leslie-Knott-Letcher-Perry Community Action Council.

More than 200 people drove through heavy rain to attend the meeting. A motion from the floor to limit voting to those persons receiving mail at the Blackey post office resulted in a total vote of 153. Whitehead, a mem-

ber of the Work Experience and Training Program, received 88 votes. Pascal Dixon, another WET worker, polled 61 votes. A third nominee, Earl Hollins, received four votes.

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FOR SALE: 3-Bedroom home near town. Hardwood floors and birch-paneled kitchen. Nice neighborhood. Call 633-7578.



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those from Letcher to attend ents, and the brothers and sisters

JOHNNY ADAMS AT AGE 76 IS BEGINNING TO CHANGE HIS MIND; STRIP MINING MAKES HIM QUESTION FREE ENTERPRISE SYSTEM

Johnny Adams has been a firm believer in free enterprise all his life. At the age of 76 -- a time when most men's beliefs are pretty well settled -- he is beginning to change his mind.

Adams lives about a mile north of Premium on Johnson's Branch of Smoot Creek. His wife and one of his sons, a disabled veteran of World War II, live with him in an old, comfortable house facing the creek. He owns his house and a stretch of the land around it. Another son, Arnold, 48, lives a few hundred yards away, downstream. Father and son have always been close; they are within easy walking distance of each other.

Or were -- until this week. One morning after a moderate rain the road wasn't there any more. In its place were several tons of mud, rocks, silt, and clay that had washed down into the creek from an abandoned strip-mining operation on the hills above Johnny Adams's home.

"It came roaring down like a freight train," says Arnold Adams, remembering how he woke up a little earlier than planned. The slide completely blocked the creek, detouring it into the road between Arnold's house and Johnny's. Since then, the water has eroded the road surface. In another week or two the road will probably be impassable.

A bulldozer could open up the creek in a few hours. But hundreds of tons of earth, anchored only by a flimsy network of roots, sits poised above the creek waiting for the spring rains. If it comes down all at once, it could easily wash clear across the creek and up into Johnny Adams's fields on the other side.

"That's free enterprise right there," says Johnny Adams, brandishing his cane at the mud. "There's something wrong when a coal company can take out our wealth with nary a cent paid in taxes and give us this in return."

Actually the damage was done three years ago, when a two-mile strip was bulldozed and

mined by the Maxietta Coal Co. of Clintwood, Va. The company did a very professional job of getting the coal out, but the bulldozers blocked up a score of little streams that drain the hillside into Johnson's Branch. For three years the streams have been running underground, carving out new passages and undermining the loose earth. This week's slide was predictable and inevitable, as predictable as the additional slides that will wash into the creek this spring.

Right now the road between the Adams houses is under about six inches of fast-flowing water. It gets deeper every day, and Johnny Adams' wrath gets deeper right along with it.

"I never did much believe in controlling a man," he says. "But I'm beginning to think we hit the end of the line. Going to have to control people, tell them what they can't do to other people. I was a tenant farmer 48 years before I had the money to buy this land. Then I bought 150 acres of it. Gave the county the right-of-way for this road. Never would have believed a man over in Virginia could come put it all under water, and get away with it."

Kentucky's current strip-mine legislation was not in effect when Maxietta worked the hills above Johnson's Branch. The company made no effort to reclaim the land. There is no legal way to force it to do so now.

"I was talking to a lawyer about that," says Arnold Adams. "You have my sympathy," he told me. "Hell, I said, 'we don't need your sympathy, we need your support!'"

But the mud slide in Johnson's Creek is only the latest episode in a long history of exploitation. Johnny Adams' father homesteaded the land a few miles away in 1890. In 1904 he sold the mineral rights to his 600 acres at the more or less standard price of 50¢ per acre, netting \$300 on the deal. Within a few years, approximately \$3,000,000 worth of coal had been mined out of his land. He died in poverty.

"And I began that way," says

Johnny Adams. "And I'll die just like he did. But there's a lot of things I don't believe in any more."

Whitesburg native is top recruiter

The Army's top recruiter in Kentucky and southern Indiana is a Whitesburg native with a very special way of making military life sound appealing.

He is Staff Sgt. Daniel O. Wright, a veteran of fourteen years in the Army, much of it spent on duty in Germany and Korea. He has been an Army recruiter since 1955.

Working in Richmond, Ky., Sgt. Wright was assigned an enlistment quota for January of seven men. He signed up 22. The Army mathematicians figure this to be 314.3% of quota, and that makes Sgt. Wright the top man among recruiters in the area.

The Army has not divulged the reasons for Sgt. Wright's success. It reports only that he is "personable" but that seems obvious.

BUTTERSCOTCH NUT ROLLS. Combine 1/4 cup melted butter with 1/2 cup brown sugar and 1/2 cup chopped pecans. Spread this mixture over the bottom of a butter loaf pan. Place brown- and -serve cloverleaf rolls on top of this mixture with top side down and bake in a 400-degree oven for 15 minutes. Let rolls stand in pan a minute after removing from the oven. Then turn rolls into a serving plate and allow the butterscotch mixture to run down over the rolls. Then serve.



ARNOLD ADAMS, at left above, stands at the edge of the mud slide that re-routed the creek near his home. The creek used to flow behind where he stands; now it uses (and erodes) the road between him and his father, Johnny Adams, at right. Below: the Adamases talk over their crisis in Johnny's home. (Eagle photos)



Lady, you'll love flameless electric water heating (almost this much)

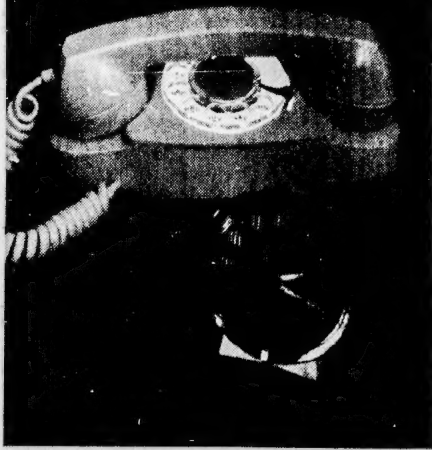


From the moment you install a flameless electric water heater you'll know why it's so much better than other types. Because it needs no cumbersome flue, it tucks away unobtrusively almost anywhere. It's utterly silent. And it supplies all the clean, even-temperatured hot water your family needs. Talk with your husband soon about one--another electric appliance worth loving.

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TO BE WED IN JUNE--Mr. and Mrs. Vernon Hammock of Whitesburg announce the engagement of their daughter, Judy Lynn, to Larry Ray Brown, son of Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Brown of Whitesburg. The wedding will take place in June.



ENGAGED--Mr. and Mrs. Johnie W. Hall of Whitesburg announce the engagement of their daughter, Barba June Hall, to Alvin Eldridge, son of Mr. and Mrs. Dewey Eldridge of Kings Creek. No date has been set for the wedding.

STUDENT PUBLISHES NEW HISTORY OF LETCHER COUNTY; FRENCH HAWK CELEBRATES 80th BIRTHDAY AT PARTY

By MRS. CECIL WEBB

Terry Cornett, son of Mr. and Mrs. Venters Cornett of Whitesburg, has recently had published a booklet, a brief history of Letcher County. The book tells of early settlers and pioneer days in Letcher County and is dedicated to the memory of the late Anthony Day, who the young author says first inspired him and awakened his interest in Letcher County history. Terry, a senior at Whitesburg High School, also is a lover of antiques and history.

Mr. and Mrs. Sam Collins Jr. entertained Saturday afternoon at a surprise birthday party honoring Atty. French Hawk on his 80th birthday. The party was held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Hawk on Walnut Street. Mrs. Collins was assisted in entertaining by Mrs. William Cahoon. The dining table was covered with a linen cloth, and lighted candles in silver candelabra stood at each side of the birthday cake. Friends

present for the party included Atty. Stephen Combs and Mrs. Combs, Judge J. L. Hays and Mrs. Hays, Atty. John Cornett and Mrs. Cornett, Atty. F. Byrd Hogg and Mrs. Hogg, Atty. Leroy Fields, Herman Hale, Kay Hale, Miss Hester Day, Atty. Ronald Polly, Mrs. Sam Collins, Bonnie Griffie and William Cahoon. After the refreshments the group enjoyed reminiscing about happenings in the courthouse in yesteryear. A well deserved tribute to Mr. and Mrs. Hawk, who so often and so graciously share their lovely home filled with antiques with the people of this town. They are a part of what makes Whitesburg such a pleasant town in which to live.

Mrs. Jack Collier was hostess to the Town and Country Homemakers Club at her home Thursday afternoon. The program centered on thoughts on planning and raising better gardens and was directed by Mrs. Lenora Hammock. A fund raising project also was

discussed. A refreshment plate was served. Present were Mrs. M. R. Blackson, Mrs. J. D. Larkey, Mrs. Cleo Pritchard, Mrs. Joe Ramsey, Mrs. Dan Quillen, Mrs. John Ramsey and Mrs. Landon Whitaker.

Mr. and Mrs. Paul Underwood and son Tommy and Mrs. F. C. Hammonds were in London to visit Mr. F. C. Hammonds, who is confined to a hospital there.

Those who are interested in joining Cub Scouts should contact John Ramsey, Boy Scouts, sponsored by the Veterans of Foreign Wars under the guidance of Eddie Melton, need new members also.

Mrs. Lou Maggard of Whitco Road celebrated her eighty-second birthday February 17. Mrs. Maggard has been an invalid for the past 33 years. She has been a member of the Graham Memorial Presbyterian Church for the past 68 years, and her

(Continued on Page 10)

ANDREW WRIGHT BURIED AT PINE CREEK

Funeral services were held at the Mayking Baptist Church on Tuesday for Andrew J. Wright, 64. Officiating ministers were Bob Sexton and Glen Sturgill. Burial was in the family plot of Craft Cemetery at Pine Creek.

Mr. Wright died Feb. 26 in the Whitesburg Hospital.

He was born in Virginia City, Va., and was a son of the late Charles C. and Charolett King Wright.

He is survived by his wife, Mrs. Lula Alice Stapleton Wright; 11 children, Andrew Wright Jr., Whitesburg; Mrs. Elizabeth Grubbs and Mrs. Ha-

zel Fugate, both of Erlanger; Mrs. Martha Wampler, Lexington; Franklin Wright, Mayking; Mrs. Peggy Sue Wampler, Tocomo, Va.; Mrs. Betty Jo Dix, Mrs. Vena Lee Doherty, James Clyde Wright and Judy Faye Wright, all of Erlanger; and Dan Wright of Mayking; two brothers, William Wright, Detroit, Mich., and Paul Wright, Wise, Va.; two sisters, Mrs. Nora Webb, Mayking, and Mrs. Bessie Sturgill, Norton, Va.; 29 grandchildren and one great grandchild.

GRANT CAUDILL, 49, SUCCUMBS

Funeral services for Grant Foyser Caudill, 49, were conducted Sunday at the Doty Creek Regular Baptist Church by Elders Crit Eldridge, Beckham Fields and I. D. Back.

Burial was in the Hampton Cemetery at Letcher.

Mr. Caudill died Feb. 24/ He was a son of Willie Caudill and the late Bertha Caudill and was born at Jeremiah. He was married to Gracie Hampton Feb. 28, 1940.

Surviving besides his wife and father are five sons, Marvin Caudill, Pikeville; Michael

Caudill, Jeremiah; David Merle, Murry Foyster and Tim Morris, all at home; five brothers, Ranken and David Caudill, both of Louisville; Winslow Caudill, Jeremiah; Vernon Caudill, Kodak; Hansford Caudill, Smithsboro; three sisters, Mrs. Cora Everidge, Jeremiah; Mrs. Zana Littlefield and Mrs. Orelva Dixon, both of Boston, Mass., and a grandson.

He was a member of the Little Dove Church at Sassafras. Moore and Craft Funeral Home handled funeral arrangements.

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Another way you can save now:

During the sale only, you can add power steering and power brakes at a special package price. Get them both for easier driving.

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More happenings of this week in Whitesburg . . . (from Page 9)

ROMEO'S RETURN FROM FLORIDA; WOMAN'S CLUB ENTERTAINS; CHURCH GROUPS MEET

Christian character radiates through her cheerfulness and consideration of others. Members of her family and friends present for the celebration were Mr. and Mrs. C. W. Hatter and son, Bill, Lexington; Mr. and Mrs. Pascal Maggard and son, Mackey, Tiffin, Ohio; Mr. and Mrs. Steve Stamper, Mr. and Mrs. Phillip Allen Back, Mrs. Marvin Holbrook and Candy Honeycutt.

Mr. and Mrs. Joe Romeo have returned from Oneco, Fla., where they have been guests of Mrs. Romeo's brother, John Mullins, and Mrs. Mullins. Mrs. Romeo had been in Florida for several weeks, and Mr. Romeo went to Oneco about 10 days ago. In celebration of her husband's birthday Mrs. Mullins entertained members of her family, including the Romeos, Mrs. Nancy Owens of Tampa, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Martin, Mrs. Roda Smith and nieces and nephews of Mr. Mullins.

Mrs. W. H. Blair was hostess to the Susannah Wesley Circle of the Methodist Church at her home Tuesday night. Slides of Red Cross work in Korea were shown by Mrs. W. H. Blair Jr., who had participated in that work recently. Those who attended included Mrs. Joe Newell, Mrs. Stephen Combs, Mrs. Virgil Blair, Mrs. Owen Wright, Mrs. Orval Hughes, Mrs. Ruth Rice, Mrs. Albert Jones and Miss Sarah Casey. A refreshment course was served by Mrs. Blair with Mrs. Blair Jr. assisting.

At duplicate bridge Monday night at South East Community College in Cumberland, Mrs. Forrest Gentry and Miss Clara Shaw held high in North-South play and Ivan Mullins and Joe Gentry were winners in east-west play.

Mrs. Lettie Salling, mother of Mrs. Walter Enlow, is a patient in Memorial Hospital. She is slightly improved.

Mrs. Harry Caudill and Mrs. Stephen Combs were guests of the Woman's Society of Christian Service of the Jenkins Methodist Church. Mrs. Caudill, speaker on the program, gave a book review on "Keepers of the Poor," by J. Edward Carothers, associate general secretary of the National Division of the Methodist Board of Missions. Mrs. Caudill brought out the fact that keeping the poor in their poverty and not doing anything about it is not being a brother's keeper. She said we must cease being keepers of the poor and become our brothers' keepers. That, she said, is the real test of Christian responsibility. A tea hour followed the program, giving those present a chance to discuss the timely subject, which is so predominant throughout this area.

Friends joined Mr. and Mrs.

Emery Lewis at their home on Feb. 17 for an evening of games and entertainment. The Valentine motif was carried out in decorations and refreshments. Present were Mr. and Mrs. R. C. Day, Mr. and Mrs. Maurice Lewis, the Rev. and Mrs. David Morrow, Mr. and Mrs. Maurice Lewis, Mr. and Mrs. Jack Cox, Mrs. Ralph Addins, Mr. and Mrs. Don Childers and Mr. and Mrs. Don Almond.

The senior high group of the Graham Memorial Presbyterian Church enjoyed a progressive dinner Sunday night. Courses were served at the homes of Jeanie Price, Ann Gish, David Fields Jr., Anella Caudill and Michael and Jennie Burkh. Yarlethe Swisher assisted Mrs. Jack Burkh in the final serving and the group then enjoyed games and television.

Mr. and Mrs. Johnnie Romine had as guests at the Woman's Club party Saturday night at the Coffey House Mr. and Mrs. Tommy Romine.

Mr. and Mrs. Warren Davis spent Sunday in Jackson as guests of Mrs. Davis' mother, Mrs. E. C. Burnette.

Miss Eline Salyer was in Hazard to visit relatives during the week end.

Yarlethe Swisher, John Swisher and Carol Brown were in Lexington last week, where they were guests of Miss Ann Dugan. Miss Dugan, former Whitesburg home economics teacher, is getting along nicely.

Mrs. Kenneth Frye of Cynthia is a guest of her daughter, Mrs. Harry Caudill, Mr. Caudill and family.

Edgar Banks has returned to his home on Cowan after several weeks in the Whitesburg hospital. He is much improved.

Mr. and Mrs. Ronald Polly and small son were in Louisville recently.

Mr. and Mrs. Joe Newell and family recently visited in Vanceburg with Mrs. Newell's father, Mr. and Mrs. Dee Dawahare and Mrs. Harding Dawahare were in town for a short stay last week. Jim Collins of Esersville, Va., was a guest of his daughter, Mrs. W. J. Huakison and family during the week end.

Mrs. Owen Wright is in Louisville and Lexington this week for a visit with relatives. She will be a guest of her son, Owen Wayne Wright, Mrs. Wright and their daughter in Louisville.

On Sunday Mr. and Mrs. Cossie Quillen, Mrs. Orval Hughes and Mrs. Ruth Rice were in Hazard, where they visited Mayor Willie Dawahare at the Regional Hospital and other friends.

Miss Clara Shaw has been confined to her home because of illness for several weeks.

Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Blair and Mrs. W. H. Blair Jr. returned

Saturday from Richmond, Va., where they attended the prep school basketball tournament. Cadet Robert Lee Blair, son of Mr. and Mrs. Blair Sr., participated in the tournament. Cadet Blair is a student at Randolph Macon Military Academy. Mrs. Blair Sr. and Mrs. Blair Jr. also visited at the academy at Front Royal recently. Mrs. Blair Jr. is visiting here while her husband, Lt. W. H. Blair, a member of the All Army Basketball team stationed at Fort Knox, is now in San Francisco where the team is playing.

Mrs. Maurice Lewis entertained at her home Friday when friends were invited for a spaghetti supper. The occasion was the birthday of Mr. Lewis and Mrs. Leonard Lewis. Others present included Leonard Lewis, Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Combs, Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Ammerman and Mrs. J. E. Crawford.

Mrs. Flora Standifer has returned to her home after spending three months with her children in Indiana and Louisville. On February 26 Mr. and Mrs. Abb Humphrey of Louisville entertained with a birthday party honoring Mrs. Standifer and Miss Leigh Lewis of Whitesburg.

Members of the family attending were Mr. and Mrs. Emery Lewis and Mrs. Sarah Breeding, Whitesburg; Artie Blair, Deputy, Ind.; Mrs. Bumette Adams, Janice Adams, Mrs. Willard Brown, Jeanette Brown, Mrs. Lola Standifer, Charles Standifer, Mrs. Willard Brown, Carolyn Brown, Mr. and Mrs. Carol Adams, all of Charlestown, Ind.; Mr. and Mrs. Melvin Blair, Columbus, Ind.; Mr. and Mrs. William K. Murphy, Jeffersonville, Ind.; David Humphrey, Ft. Knox; Mr. and Mrs. Jim Sherrod, Johnny Blankenbecker and Rebecca Humphrey, Louisville.

The Whitesburg Woman's Club

husband's night party was held Saturday night with a dinner at the Coffey House. Approximately 25 couples were in attendance. Hostesses for the occasion were Mrs. Robert Williams, Mrs. R. C. Day, Mrs. W. L. Stallard and Mrs. Jack Hammock. Rev. David Morrow offered the invocation and after dinner Diane and Timmy Wright, children of Mr. and Mrs. Billy Wayne Wright, pantomimed a song and dance number. Mrs. Raymond Smith led a panel quiz in which all participated, and group singing was enjoyed.

Mr. and Mrs. Zenneth Bentley entertained the Whitesburg Garden Club at their home in May, King Monday. After a covered dish supper Mrs. J. L. Hays, the program chairman, gave a talk on spring flowers, bulbs and house plants used now which can be taken outdoors in summer. She displayed some of the early shrubs and herbs now in bud. Officers for the ensuing year were named. Mrs. Albert Jones, the incumbent president, and others officers were elected to serve the new year. Included were the Rev. H. M. Wiley and Mrs. Wiley, Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Ammerman, Mr. and Mrs. Cossie Quillen, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Caudill, Mr. and Mrs. Lindsay Webb, Mrs. Orval Hughes, Mr. and Mrs. Albert Jones and Mrs. J. L. Hays.

Mr. and Mrs. Emery Lewis were dinner guests at the home of Mr. and Mrs. John Blankenbecker of Louisville Feb. 25. Stuart and Robert Lewis were week end guests of Mr. and Mrs. J. V. Millard and family in Lexington.

Mr. and Mrs. D. B. Franklin of Sergeant are vacationing in Florida. Postmaster R. C. Day attended a postmasters conference in Cincinnati recently.



MORGAN OZEE

Wins promotion

Morgan J. Ozee, Hazard division personnel supervisor of the Kentucky Power Company, has been named administrative assistant to A. R. Barber, Hazard division manager.

A veteran of 34 years of service with the Power company, Ozee joined the line department in Hazard in 1933. He moved from line man second class to the stores department in 1937. He later held a series of jobs in the engineering department and was promoted to division safety supervisor in 1948. He became division personnel supervisor in August of 1949.

Ozee is a past president of the Hazard Lions Club, of which he has been a member for 18 years. He is serving as district chairman and member of the executive board of the Lonesome Pine Council of the Boy Scouts. He has served as vice president of the council and has received the Silver Beaver award. He has served as an instructor in Red Cross First Aid. He and his wife have three children. The Ozees are members of the First Baptist Church in Hazard.

Prevent forest fires



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The family has one less worry because they have budgeted in advance for hospital and surgical-medical care.

Less Red Tape—(Direct payment to hospital and doctor normally mean no claims to file.)

Low overhead and operating expenses mean more benefits for members. (Many services are paid in full regardless of cost.)

FOR INFORMATION ABOUT NON-GROUP MEMBERSHIP

Write Blue Cross-Blue Shield if you

1. are a Kentuckian, 64 or under, in good health and neither spouse nor self is employed where there are 10 or more persons, or . . .
2. will soon reach age 65, or . . .
3. have a son or daughter reaching age 19 or marrying before 19.



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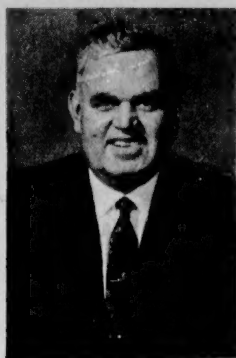
Light-hearted salad



PET COTTAGE CHEESE adds the light touch to every winter menu. Dairy-fresh flavor, that's the light cottage cheese—PET, YOU BET!

Vote for and elect
RAY COLLINS

Republican candidate
for state senator



TO THE VOTERS:

I am a candidate for the Kentucky State Senate, from Letcher and Perry counties. I am entering the race because I believe the people of this district need someone who can go to Frankfort and speak for them, and because I believe I can do that job.

I am a businessman and a minister and I have been concerned all my life about the problems we face here in the mountains. I do not pretend to know all the answers, but I believe I do know some of them.

I was born at Tillie, Kentucky, on November 5, 1911, the son of George W. and Mary (Brown) Collins. I attended local schools in Letcher County, continuing my education at Morehead State College, where I studied for three years. I was married in 1933 to the former Estelle Collins of Isom, and we are the parents of six children. I was employed as a teacher for eight years, and served at one time as principal of the Colson Grade School. After World War II I entered the soft drink business, and helped to build in these counties one of Kentucky's largest soft drink firms. I am at present President of the Kentucky State Bottlers Association and president of the Eastern Kentucky Bottlers Association.

I am a past president of the Whitesburg Rotary Club and have served 12 years on the Letcher County Board of Education, including a period as chairman of the board. I also have served as president of the Letcher County Teachers Association and of the Letcher County Athletics Association. During World War II I served two years as a sergeant at Fort Riley, Kansas.

I am pastor of three churches: Thornton at Mayking, Premium and Little Colly. The Thornton Regular Baptist Church is the largest in the United States. I also am moderator of the Thornton Union Association and was president of the Mountain Haven Children's Home at Van for five years.

There is a lot I could say about the mountains and the things I think ought to be done, and I will be discussing those things as the campaign goes along. The thing I want to stress most right now is that I share your concern about Eastern Kentucky and that I have the time and the energy and the willingness to serve you as your senator and spokesman if you want me.



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THE BANK OF WHITESBURG
Branch bank in Jenkins

Special set Sunday

"Rabbit Hill," a dramatization of Robert Lawson's prizewinning children's book, will be presented in color on Channel 5, Sunday, March 5, at 6:30 p.m.

The hour special, which closely follows the plot of the book, is filmed from the animals' standpoint. It is about a group of animals who have been living happily at the Hill since the original owners left, and what happens to them when a new family comes to occupy the house.

**Job Opening
Immediate**

**ON-THE-JOB TRAINING
PROJECT DIRECTOR**

The Leslie-Knott-Letcher-Perry Community Action Council has an immediate opening for a person with a college degree (preferably in psychology or social sciences) to develop OJT placements and to counsel OJT enrollees. Office will be in Hazard. Salary \$7,800 per annum.

Contact: E. J. Safford,
Whitesburg, Ky. 633-4458



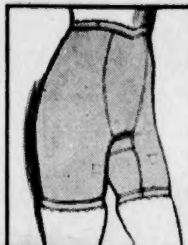
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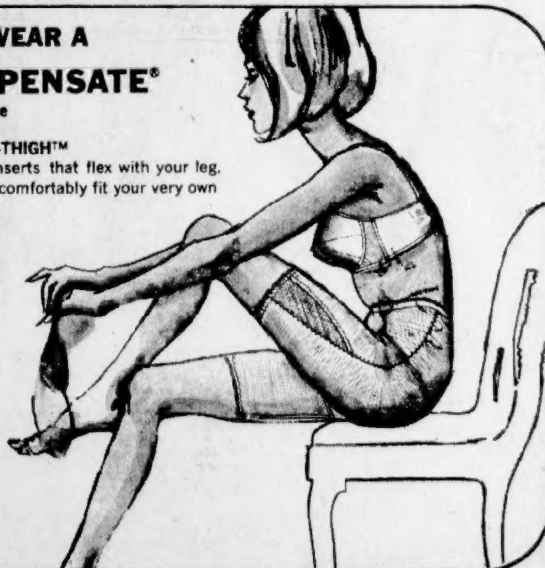


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Figure trimming Compensate girdles and panty girdles are made of lightweight powernet with DuPont machine washable Lycra Spandex and Antron Nylon.

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JOHN LUCAS

REPRESENTATIVE

For Letcher County

A Candidate of the People,
by the People, for the People.

In the May, 1967 Primary

THANK YOU

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the most viewed programs in the
area

Mon. --Klassroom Kwiz
Tues. --Arthur Smith
Wed. --Kiddie Kollege
Thu. --Marshal Dillon
Fri. --Klub Kwiz

"Where News Is
A Profession"



Lester Frazier dies

Funeral services for Lester Frazier, 55, were conducted in the chapel of Blair Funeral Home Feb. 26 by Elders Riley Fouts and Curt Caudill. Burial was in the Maggard Cemetery at Partridge.

Mr. Frazier died at his home at Day Feb. 24. He was the son of the late James and Rebecca Caudill Frazier. He was a member of the Old Regular Baptist Church.

Surviving are his wife, Lillie Blair Frazier; three sons, Lester Charles Frazier, at home; Carlos O'Neal Frazier, Cowan; and William Carl Frazier, Roxana; and three brothers, Chester Frazier, Dongola; James Cornett, Maryland; and Daniel Cornett, Miami Beach, Fla., and four grandchildren.

Meetings scheduled

Parents of children who attend day care centers at Blackey and Fleming have been invited to meetings at the centers this month to elect policy advisory committees for the centers.

There will be three committees, one for Fleming, one for Blackey and one for the county as a whole.

The first meeting will be held Tuesday, March 14, at 7 p. m. in the Fleming Day Care center, located in the Boone Fork Community Center at Fleming.

The second will be at the Lower Letcher Community Center, Blackey, at 7 p. m. Wednesday, March 15.

Each advisory committee will include parents and interested citizens.

The child care program is run by the Kentucky Child Welfare Research Foundation of Frankfort under a grant made from the Office of Economic Opportunity through the Letcher County Economic Opportunity Committee.

COWAN PUPILS TO COMPETE ON KIDDIE KOLLEGE

Three students from Cowan Elementary School at Dongola have been selected to represent their class on the March 8 performance of Kiddie Kollege, Channel 5.

They are Lisa F. Kimberlin, whose father, Eckie Kimberlin, is employed at Roxana Coal Co.; Timothy Wade York, whose father, Ralph York, is employed at the Elkhorn Coal Company; and Linda Mahala Caudill, daughter of Carl Caudill of Reedy's Furniture and of Gypsie Long Caudill, cook at Whitesburg High School.

The students are all third graders from Ida Lillian Boggs' class at Cowan Elementary and will be working toward the realization of a \$40 balance to an original \$60 goal for textbooks and records for the school, according to Bradley R. Breeding, principal. Food sales will also be made for this purpose.

Kiddie Kollege is televised live and in color from the studios of WCYB-TV, Bristol, each Wednesday at 7:00 p. m. A top prize of \$25 and invitation to a repeat performance goes to the winning team which scores highest following three rounds of questions-and-answers. Host of the show is Ed Spiegel.

Dagnan baby dies

The infant son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Dagnan died at birth at Whitesburg Memorial Hospital last week. The baby was their first child.

Funeral rites held for Sylvania Smith

Funeral services were held at the chapel of Moore and Craft Funeral Home Feb. 23 for Sylvania Smith, 78, Whitesburg. The Rev. David Morrow officiated. Burial was in the Sandlick Cemetery.

She was the daughter of the late Isom and Cynthia Sturgill Smith. She died Feb. 22 in the Whitesburg Hospital.

Surviving are two daughters, Mrs. Bonnie Bentley of Whitesburg and Mrs. Martha Clifton of Mount Vernon, Ind.; five brothers, Corne Smith, Partridge; David Smith, Eolia; John Smith, Penikese, Ind.; Newt Smith, Letcher; Henry Smith, Big Stone Gap, Va.; three sisters, Mrs. Mazie Ague, Knightsville, Ind.; Mrs. Samantha Lawson, Big Stone Gap, Va., and Mrs. Linda Collins, Coeburn, Va.

She was a member of the Whitesburg First Baptist Church.

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ARTHUR TOM SCOTT
FOR
State Representative
Democratic Primary
May 23, 1967

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to help build a
better Letcher County.

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BUY IT
NOW!**



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Get that new car you've been wanting . . . get it now! There's no need to put it off any longer when we can put you behind the wheel with a quick, convenient Auto Loan. Come in, talk to us about it . . . you'll see how easy it is to get what it takes with our prompt, courteous service. And we'll arrange an easy monthly payment plan tailored to fit your income. Come see us soon and walk out to buy the car you want to be driving.

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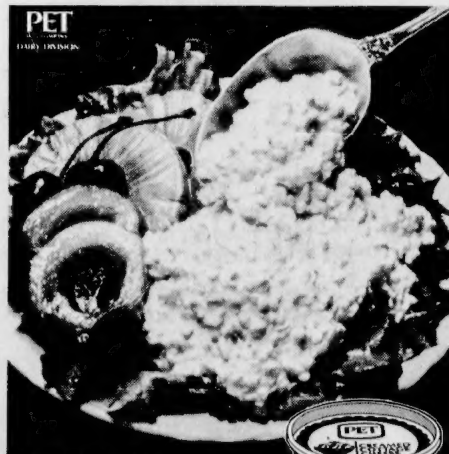
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